

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A1  
A polymeric binder system and method of making, and a method for extruding thin-walled articles such as thin-walled tubes is provided. The extrusion method comprises providing a polymeric binder system comprising a substantially homogeneous solution of a polymeric binder and an organic solvent, adding a ceramic or metal powder to form a mixture, and evaporating the solvent from the mixture. The remaining mixture is then extruded from a die and heated to burn-off the binder and sinter the article.

IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend claims 1 and 13 as follows:

A2  
1.(Amended) A method of forming an extruded thin-walled article comprising:  
providing a polymeric binder system comprising a substantially homogeneous solution of a thermoplastic polymeric binder and an organic solvent which is in liquid form at room temperature;  
adding a ceramic or metal powder to said polymeric binder system to form a mixture;  
evaporating said organic solvent from said mixture; and  
extruding the remaining mixture from a die to form a thin-walled green article.

A3  
13.(Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said metal powder comprises nickel oxide plus yttria-stabilized zirconia.

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that copies of cited documents were apparently omitted from the Information Disclosure Statement